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New Year's glitz **P. 2**

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albums for the  
holiday season **P. 13**

**SHARP EATS:**

Step-by-step guide  
to building your own  
gingerbread house **P. 22**



# TOO SOON FOR CHRISTMAS

LOSING HER SON MAKES THIS  
THE MOST DIFFICULT SEASON  
OF ALL FOR WANDA CAMPBELL **P. 8**

**FREE**

# FASHION

Did you buy a new outfit for a New Year's Eve party?  
Send a photo to [QC@leaderpost.com](mailto:QC@leaderpost.com)

## #HOLIDAY FASHION

### Lisa Blehm: Two holiday looks

By Ashley Martin

Lisa Blehm doesn't have to go far to dress up her casual, comfy look for the holidays. She's a manager of Cade Style Lounge and has a hand in buying stock for the new fashion store.

"It's like shopping for a friend and it's so fun," says Blehm. "Needless to say, the fashion lover has a few style items on her Christmas wish list."

#### CHRISTMAS CASUAL

For Christmas Day, comfort is key. "Because we're going from house to house and visiting family," Blehm says accessories to dress up a casual time.

**1. EARRINGS:** Hilberry & Black

**2. NECKLACE:** Cade

**3. VEST:** Cade "I'm loving fur vests right now and we have a lot of them."

**4. TOP:** Joe Fresh

**5. WATCH:** Michael Kors

**6. LEGGINGS:** American Apparel

**7. SHOES:** Cade "I'll always be in heels because I'm kind of small."

#### NEW YEAR'S EVENING WEAR

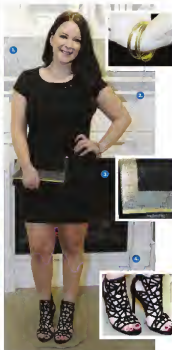
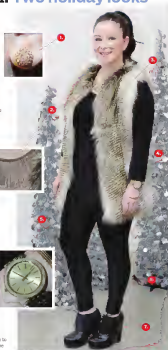
For a night out, Blehm goes a little fancier, opting for simple black dresses maybe with a little bit of sparkle.

**1. DRESS:** Winners

**2. BRACELETS:** Jada

**3. CLUTCH:** Cade

**4. SHOES:** Cade "A lot of girls don't like to wear open-toed heels in the winter time, but I think it's OK to do that. You have to make a sacrifice sometimes to look good."



For Christmas, Lisa Blehm goes casual (left) while New Year's Eve warrants a dressier look. QC PHOTOS BY BRYAN SCHUBERT

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Lindsay Anderson and her nephew Winston Campbell are trying to cope this Christmas season after losing their brother and son 17-year-old Lane Andrew in a traffic accident last August. QC PHOTO BY TONY HUSICK

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## Andrew Matte 1967-2013

This edition of QC is published on what should be one of the happiest days of the year. For those of us at QC and the Leader-Post, the joys of the season are tempered by the loss of one of our own.

Our friend and colleague Andrew Matte died unexpectedly on Thursday shortly before this edition went to press. As of this writing, we don't know the cause of death.

Our thoughts are with Andrew's wife Carmelle Ottenbreit, his family and his many friends.

It's hard to know what's right at times like these, but we can think of a no more appropriate tribula than to share some of Andrew's last work with the readers to whom he dedicated his professional life.

Andrew's compassion for the disadvantaged — one of his great strengths as a writer — shines through in this week's poignant, thought-provoking cover story. We think it is one of his best.

We'll miss Andrew's quick wit, positive spirit and his unshakable belief in the power of journalism to help us know each other better. We're sorry he left us so soon. Our lives have been enriched by the time we shared with him.

### QC COVER PHOTO BY DON HEALY

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# IN THE CITY

# DECEMBER 18, 2013 — 1:56 P.M.

## Slipping out of school



Slipskis from St. Thomas School got a break from the classroom to do some pre-Christmas frolicking at the left in Massena Centre east of Broad Street. (From left) Natasha Task, Lily Hane and Alex Sutherland all in Grade 4. (By) about the fall together. GC Photo BY STEVEN SCHULZBERG

## YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE

QC wants to hear about your favourite place in Regina. Email: [QC@leaderpost.com](mailto:QC@leaderpost.com)

## \* MY FAVOURITE PLACE

## St. Paul's the site of many milestones, memories

By Ashley Martin

There is no doubt why St. Paul's Cathedral is special to Shelly Hines. Her family has attended the church for generations, and she is actively involved in the church's community.

She and her husband Trevor were married there 18 years ago and it's where her son Liam, now 14, took his first steps. The place holds a lot of memories for her.

Second to Easter Christmases in Hines's favourite time of the year, so it's an especially nice time to attend St. Paul's, which is the oldest church in Regina — its present chapel dates back to 1866. The church hall, out of commission since 2011, is being rebuilt and set to reopen in February.

**Q: How did your family pick St. Paul's?**

**A:** My grandmother was a new bride and when they came to Canada (they wanted) to go to one that looks like the one of the churches in England, and that's how they chose St. Paul's. They always were kind of the Christmas/Easter sort of families until the early '60s and that's when I got baptized at Sunday School, so they started coming more regularly.

**Q: What's special about this church?**

**A:** Any time any of the royal family comes, we are the church they go to — Any major events you'll typically find — they happen at St. Paul's. When Lady Diana died we had a service for her. When the Queen Mother died, we had a service for her.

The music at St. Paul's is excellent. We've got some fantastic musicians; we've got friends who are with the Regina Symphony Orchestra so we often at Christmas time will get an extra extra instrument or something extra you're enjoying.

**Q: Is it all your years there, what are some special memories?**

**A:** When the Princess Royal came to Regina, this must have been back in the '80s. I can remember my grand-



Generations of Shelly Hines's family were worshipped at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral. It's her favourite place in Regina, especially at Christmas. QC photo by MICHAEL BELL.

mother standing up in the hall and saying to her son, my uncle Phil, Philip that is Princess Anne. Princess Anne, this is my son Philip.

She was so gracious, just the absolute epitome of royalty — Oh it's nice to meet you Philip — and she shook his hand. It was just lovely.

I can remember my big taking his first steps in that hall. We were upstairs in the hall and we were at a funeral and I remember him leaving from me and walking towards Phil.

I love it. It's such a calm place and when I go in there it's just another home for me.

**Q: How important is going back to**

**the community for St. Paul's?**

**A:** St. Paul's being a downtown church has always been aware of the needs of those who are less fortunate. Every Friday morning they would serve breakfast and they would usually get 200 people who would just come in and eat.

But the church we recently lost our hall so even our offices have had to move off grounds because the sewer system caved — So the breakfast club had to stop. Out of the breakfast club stopping we now have Food My Shery (every two weeks).

We've taken on a partnership with Women of the Dawn and we provide

100 gifts for children at their Christ-mas party.

We've got two seasons high rates that are just adjacent to us — The YMCA is just south of us it's just so important that people know that this is a place where you can come and be accepted.

We believe that all are welcome, so it doesn't matter what your age is, what your background was, what your sexual orientation is. We accept you as a person.

**Q: How is the church different around Christmas?**

**A:** There's a wreath that hangs from the ceiling of the nave. It's a huge ab-

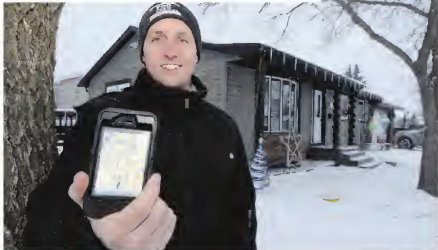
scent wreath, just massive — We light the candles each week to signify the weeks coming towards Christmas in the time of advent. There's always lights, there's a large tree that gets put up a little closer to Christmas.

The hymns change for Christmas and they're all the good ones that everybody knows. And then as Christmas Eve we've got two very special services. There's the children's service at 8 p.m., which is just — I don't want to use the word going above but that's kind of what it is. We have all the parents of the advent — and all the children's graham cracker. You've got kids fighting over cracker and who wants to bring up Mary it's fantastic.

# CITY NEWS

# OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS DECOR

## Website offers DIY twinkle tour guide



Daniel Diment made a Christmas lights tour app for people who want to start the merry displays in Regina. **QC PHOTO BY STEVEN SCHLUBERT**

By Ashley Martin

Even though he doesn't put up Christmas lights at his house, Daniel Diment is no Grinch.

In fact, he loves the merry and bright lights of the season so much, he's helping make it easier for Reganians to find them.

This is the second year for his local Christmas Lights, a website that provides beautiful outdoor Christmas cheer around the city. It's all overcrowded, so people can avoid

Diment, through the website to include their own home or area they've driven past.

Diment moved to Regina 10 years ago from Winnipeg, where a high light of each Christmas season was hanging in the air with his family to do a trouble tour.

"The constantly opened up and you paid 39 bucks for a carload or something and you drove through a whole bunch of fancy lights. When I came to Regina, there was nothing like that that I could find," he says.

Not knowing Reganians at all, his first desire died. "He didn't want to drive around aimlessly, guessing whether there'd be many lights in any given neighbourhood."

"I didn't know where to start," he says.

Now he has his own map to follow. There are more than 10 different homes listed on the site, each with its own lights on, which includes a map as well as a self-guided driving tour with directions.

It is sponsored by several local

businesses and he hopes to include a charitable component as well.

Diment says lights help people get into the spirit of Christmas, it's why he didn't call his website "holiday lights" or something more socially acceptable.

"There's a whole lot of 'merry' going on around (singing) 'season's greetings' and just being really politically correct. I think a lot of the people who are looking to look at Christmas lights, it is about Christmas for them, whatever that looks

like," he says.

Politics aside, lights are just fun to look at.

"Christmas lights are kind of nice morning. (For children,) it's kind of cool to see a bunch of lights, not something you see all the time."

Diment's plan is to get enough houses on his map to be able to make the city. Right now it would take more than three hours to see all the houses. He'd like to offer the option of limiting tours to specific areas of the city.

## NEXT WEEK: Do you make New Year's Eve a family activity? Email [QC@leaderpost.com](mailto:QC@leaderpost.com)

### Q&A PARENT TO PARENT

Each week *QC* gathers advice from parents to share with other moms and dads. This week we asked:

*How does your Christmas Day usually play out? What's the best part?*



"We usually get up whenever the kids decide, the kids open their Santa gifts and then we have breakfast while we wait for the rest of our family to arrive. Once everyone is there, we open presents, eat way too much and lounge around for the day. The best part of the day is being with family." — Michelle Gradick

"When the kids were little, my parents and one brother came over for brunch. Then my youngest brother went to the outdoor rink to play hockey. Today she and go to their girl or boyfriend's places. But we still celebrate our day. Family Christmas on Boxing Day!" — Julie Jo

"After the kids would wake up on the early morning, we wouldn't let them touch any stockings or gifts until Daddy had made his coffee and we sat down together. The anticipation and their wide-eyed eyes looking at the gifts was precious. Daddy then handed out the stockings, and after they were emptied for them handed out the gifts one by one. The slow process allowed us to all appreciate each other's happiness. Then there was fun wrapping in the room full of wrapping paper! Followed by a day of play — playing and an evening supper with extended family." — Debbie Rosewater

"Christmas day is always hectic going from one grandparent's home to another. We usually do gifts first thing, usually church, eat, hang out, eat again and then lots of visiting." — Alysa Cornishuk

"Trying to make the presents then being interrupted for my six-year-old (who I love) when they don't like 1. I tell her the elf on the shelf is always watching and reports back to Santa!" — via Twitter @CherylSeymour

"A&M for present opening and festive party for Christmas Eve! Mince! TechHubCast!" — via Twitter @Jashay

"Chaos!" But now there is a new app game for kids called Heads Up. We played the past week and it's an early family gathering and it was so much fun!" — Jessica Hayes

"I pick away all the Christmas doobies with the decorations and we read them as a family each year. Each of our kids has a doobie and they treat these doobies very carefully and softly." — via Twitter @jmgfmac



"I thought abuse could never happen to me."

Abuse can happen when and where you least expect it. Don't let it happen to you.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HEALING THIS CHRISTMAS.

Your donation to the *Leader Post* Christmas Cheer Fund will help four organizations shelter families from physical, sexual and emotional abuse. 100% of your donations will be shared equally by: *SOVA House, Reptus Transition House, Isabel Johnson Shelter and WSH Safe Home*. Help these in need. Give the gift of healing this Christmas.

### PLEASE DONATE NOW

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# ON THE COVER

I felt like I had failed as a parent.

— Thomasina Ross

# CHRISTMAS 2012

## Three unique reasons for the season

By Andrew Matto

While we without an appreciation of the religious component of Christmas, most agree that this season is a time to celebrate love, life and family.

So whether we're going to worship, watch children open gifts or reach out to a neighbour in need, Christmas also serves as a heads-up. The Yuletide season can be a yardstick for life. We sometimes count the number of Christmas shared with someone we love, or take time to remember those we've lost.

This week, we share the stories of three Regina women whose Christmas are unique this year for reasons that have little to do with tradition, but everything to do with family, loss and community.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thomasina Ross is grateful she's able to enjoy the holidays at home with her three children. And she's even more pleased about what she's avoided this Christmas.

"I didn't even want to think about me and my kids being homeless at Christmas," says Ross, as her 18-month-old son pulls himself into her lap.

"This is a good place."

Troubles for this single mother of three began last year when she struggled to pay her bills out of the paycheque she received from her job as a janitor at Extra Place. In arrears with her landlord and Saskpower, she was evicted without a place to go or money to rent elsewhere.

"I was trying my best. I needed to do it on my own. I didn't want to go on social assistance," says Thomasina, who is eight months pregnant with her fourth child.

"I woke up one morning and the power was off. I had to make a decision whether to pay what rent I could and try to stay in the house or just move and stay with friends," she says.

She took her children, but left most of her belongings behind before moving into her friend's two-bedroom apartment. She and her kids — daughters Jasmine, 4 and Brenna, 3 and son Lyle, 1 — slept in the living room.

"I felt like I had failed as a parent," says Ross. She began looking for apartments right away but soon realized she couldn't afford the typical \$1,200 fee most rent for a place to accommodate her growing family.

"Most of the apartments out there are so expensive. And they all want last month's rent and a damage deposit."



Stefanie Jankovic: Thomasina and Lyle Ross in their new home in Regina. JP PHOTO BY TROY NEECE



I was trying my best. I wanted to do it on my own. I didn't want to go on social assistance  
— Ross



Thomasina Ross and her children moved into their new home in Dec. 7 thanks to the support they received from officials at Carmichael Outreach and other community agencies. (COURTESY OF THEROYALCANADIAN)

But with the help of officials at Carmichael Outreach and money she had saved using social assistance and other government subsidies, she found a small, three-bedroom house in Regina's North Central area for \$4,250 a month.

It was relatively clean and warm, and also down the street from her kids' grandparents.

"I picked that one because it's pretty handy. Their dad's mom is just down the street," says Ross, adding the father of her kids is living in Alberta but is hoping to return in the new year.

Ross said her children moved in on Dec. 1 and officials at Carmichael

and other agencies helped arrange for donations of clothing, a Christmas tree and other items. Among the items left on her list are a kitchen table, lamps and a toddler's bed for her son. "For the past couple of weeks, he's been sleeping with me."

But you won't hear Ross complain. She acknowledges the help she received from the community.

"I couldn't believe that this could happen just before Christmas," she says.

"I've just glad we get here where we did."

Doreen Lloyd, a counsellor and housing support worker at Carmichael Outreach, says Ross's story

isn't unique. A large number of people have trouble finding affordable accommodations in Regina.

"We accept people (too) who they are. Once we get them housed, we try to get them supports and hope that we can build a rapport so that if they need help in the future they feel comfortable coming to us," says Lloyd.

"I see Thomasina as a good mom. She's doing the right things."

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

For Wanda Campbell, the best way to mark the Christmas of 2013 is to avoid it.

The emotional wounds suffered when her 17-year-old son was killed in an August are still too raw, she says. Buying presents or chasing a tree is too difficult, knowing her son isn't participating.

"I just can't celebrate Christmas. It's too hard," says Campbell, who's been unable to return to her work at the Allan Blair Cancer Centre.

"Christmas this year happens outside my house. It can't happen inside my house."

Lana Amos was on her way to the Dairy Queen in White City from Pilot Butte when he was killed on the Trans-Canada Highway. Attempting to turn left at the

intersection, Pilot Butte turned left, he was broadsided by a vehicle headed west. Lane was crossing the high way but stopped to avoid hitting a vehicle preparing to make a left turn toward Pilot Butte from the eastbound lane.

Lane was a new driver but an RCMP officer told Campbell crash es have happened the same way at the same spot involving drivers of all ages and riding a fatal crash several years ago.

In the weeks that followed, friends and family paid tribute to the Grenfell High School student by playing crows at the crash site. (Continued on page 10)

I just can't celebrate Christmas. It's too hard. Christmas this year happens outside my house. It can't happen inside my house. — Wanda Campbell

Campbell is a supporter of the position, which she hopes would prompt the government of the long-standing request from the community to build an overpass and on-ramp off-ramps.

Parents don't want their child forgotten. But we also hope that people will just slow down. They need an interchange. There's too much traffic in that intersection. And it's getting busier."

As the Christmas season approaches, Campbell didn't hesitate in opting to avoid the festive celebration she typically looks forward to. "To think of Christmas is to be reminded of Lane's death, she says, which she admits she's still struggling with.

"While people are out buying Christmas presents and putting up their Christmas trees, we were out buying wreaths to put on the cross so that are out on the highway," she says.

The only sign of the season in Campbell's house is in her son's room where a small tree belonging to Lane was set up and decorated with ornaments given to him by his grandmother.

Unable to bear the notion of waking up Christmas morning at home, she will be at her sister's home with her daughter Lindsey and preparing for a family get-together.

"That's the first time we've done that. But in the afternoon, we're flying to Las Vegas."

"We thought it was a good idea to just get away," says Campbell.

Campbell is also comforted by her daughter's company. Lindsey interrupted her studies in Seneca soon after her brother's death to be at home with her mother. "I am so grateful to her, like you wouldn't believe."

Campbell has also reached out to a local support group and attended a candlelight vigil attended by families celebrating the lives of lost loved ones. She hopes to continue her involvement with Compassion via Prayers, which hosts meetings for grieving families.

"I am looking for other parents so I can perhaps see how they have been able to survive, because some times, I don't think I'm going to be able to," says Campbell.



A memorial cross is placed for the son and wife (Lane Campbell above) at the site where he died in a crash on the Trans-Canada Highway. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lindsey Campbell (wearer) stands with her mother Wanda Campbell after Lane's death in August. GP PHOTO BY TROY DUFFEE

While people are out buying Christmas presents and putting up their Christmas trees, we were out buying wreathes to put on the crosses that are out on the highway. —Campbell

"There are days I don't think I can take another breath."

Lane had just graduated Grade 10, which his mother called one of his most successful years. Because Anish had Asperger's syndrome and struggled in social situations, he achieved his completion of a unique outdoor education program at school, which he sought out to challenge his anxieties.

"He succeeded more than even he thought he could do. And he was on top of the world when he finished Grade 10."

Campbell and her family were invited to an online funeral, which was organized by an Internet page dedicated to and played by the group Mincecraft. Using digital images of a church, pews and even a graveyard, friends of Lane's from the Netherlands, Austria and elsewhere participated in 30-minute service which Campbell and other

family members watched on their home computer.

"They skipped the whole thing because it was something else. It was the nicest thing and it was also the saddest thing too," says Campbell, adding her son found solace on the Internet.

"He told me one time that the only time he felt that he had a voice was on the computer."

"The funeral was touching because his dad would never let him. His world was filled with anxiety." As far as advice to others struggling with a loss of family celebration and grieving the death of a family member, Campbell says she is still looking for answers herself.

"This is just a crazy thing. There are no words. You aren't supposed to lose your children. I am still sorry on my journey. So I have no advice."

"And I don't think I ever will." Continued on Page 12



Mom Campbell and sister Anish watch on a computer screen the funeral of their son, Lane, on Christmas. (CAMPBELL/CE)

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to The Non-Profit Corporations Act, 1995 (Saskatchewan), the members of Regina Hozer Economics for Living Project Inc (the "Corporation") have, by special resolution of the members, authorized the directors of the Corporation to cease operation as of December 31st, 2013 and then to distribute any property or discharge the liabilities of the corporation,

Dated November 29th, 2013 R.A Cox  
Board Chair

That is exactly what I needed to get my life back on track. And I'm grateful that I didn't kill or hurt anybody. Today, I see every day as a blessing — Steve

\*\*\*\*\*

Steve's first gift this year came about three weeks ago.

That's when government officials removed the ignition interlock device from his vehicle, which had been installed nine months earlier after he pleaded guilty to impaired driving.

"To me, that was my Christmas present. It gave me my freedom back."

The story of Steve's brush with the law and personal recovery began in the summer of 2011, when police received calls about a vehicle weaving from lane to lane as it sped down the highway. It was Steve. He was charged, spent a few hours behind bars, his driver's license suspended.

At the time, the circumstances of that July 5 were horrifying. Today Steve has positive thoughts about the incident. It was an opportunity to turn his life around, without causing more trouble than he already had.

"That is exactly what I needed to get my life back on track. And I'm grateful that I didn't kill or hurt anybody," says Steve, 52, who asked us not to publish his real name in exchange for allowing us to share his story. "Today I see every day as a blessing."

Steve's history with alcohol began years ago when he discovered that booze was the perfect antidote to the discomfort of his own feelings. He they angry and or even happy.

He acknowledged his alcoholism years ago sought treatment and lived several years as a sober person. However, he gave overconfidence and began an occasional drink would do. It took years until he found himself using alcohol as a crutch just as he'd done prior to counseling.

"Coming out of treatment I had five or six years of total sobriety that you lose sight of it. And you think, 'Maybe I'm OK now,'" Steve says. "This is a tricky disease. It'll catch you when you don't expect it."

He spent years on and off the wagon, living without alcohol for a couple of years before sliding back to the bottle — until that July evening.

"Things were never bad enough that I found myself saying, 'I can't live like this anymore. But that



An ignition interlock device for convicted impaired drivers. "I guess maybe I'm saving my own life here. And maybe I'm saving someone else's," says Steve, but who?

day came in 2011. I saw then that I could lose everything. And I actually thought I had."

Steve is reluctant to share details of his personal life, but at the time of his arrest, he assumed his career as a manager and life as a husband and father of three was over. Steve then, he discovered attending to his alcoholism was the only way to remain sober. He committed to regu-

lar Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and decided that a future, without alcohol, would help him protect his life, family and career.

"I have a great job, a great wife, great kids and wonderful family — to me, that's the most important part of my life. If I don't have that, then I don't have anything."

He also learned how to cope with his emotions. He discovered, that

emotions can be worked through without using booze to numb undesirable feelings.

"If I feel buggy or sad, it would be a trigger. Alcohol let me out of that. That I learned that it's OK to cry. It's OK to laugh. These are all things that make people. And it's OK to let all that happen."

And while this is a season where alcohol is shared at many Christmas

celebrations, Steve prefers to think of his impaired driving arrest as a gift that keeps on giving.

"The last 3½ years have been the best of my life. Because things have happened in my life that never would have happened if I hadn't been sober," he says.

"I guess maybe I'm saving my own life here. And maybe I'm saving someone else's."

# MUSIC

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## # HOLIDAY MUSIC

# The best festive songs are originals

By Ashley Martin

Every year I look forward to putting up my tree and finally — finally! — turning on the tunes I've reserved for December. And while I love tuning into "Regina's Official Christmas Radio" (My 88.1) they exclusively play holiday songs throughout December, there's only so much Geoff Green and Michael Bieble this girl can take.

Over the past few years, I've created a pretty extensive Christmas music playlist. My iTunes Christmas library is up to 315 songs — I like diversity — but there are a few tried-and-true artists I play more than most. And they generally seem to favour original songs that haven't been covered to death.

Here are my top five to holiday albums.

### Ernie the Giant and Tim Wheeler — This Is Christmas (2011)

This collaboration is poppy and singable, and the only song I re-request was Markopoulou's "Wreck," which is a really different cover choice. Though Me is a much sexier love song. Zach's Christmas describes a dystopian zombie apocalypse. But my favourite has got to be "Don't Call Me" (My Christmas, an explicit song from the perspective of Mrs. Claus, "Leave my whole life to you and what do I get? I've just a lonely").

### Laurette Lynn — A Country Christmas (2004)

The queen of country music (at least, my opinion — I love Laurette) covered a lot of holiday favourites here, but the best songs on the album are two original and Marianne looks at the tree, the first to Santa Claus and the second to a husband. The track "With Ole Santa Claus a chorale chimes," "When he goes crashing through the snow I hope he falls." I Wish I Could Ride Your Christmas Tree (This Year tells that good-for-nothing man he can stay out with his friends, because "your friends are burnt out and your tinsel don't shine, I won't be here a-waiting this time."

### Jeffery Straker — Come Home for Christmas (2013)

This is a new release in my rotation,

and just a single, but Regina singer-songwriter Jeffery Straker put the nail on the head. It's super catchy and happy as heck — just the ticket for a Christmas single. The title says it all, I'm a sucker for reunions. "You're coming home for Christmas. You help to make it my home. His love of you" This song reminds me of the airport scenes in Love Actually as the Tim McInerney commercial where the dad carries his son's hockey photo around all these years later. It's just tap at your heartstrings good.

### Hawkeye Workman — Full Moon Eleven (2005)

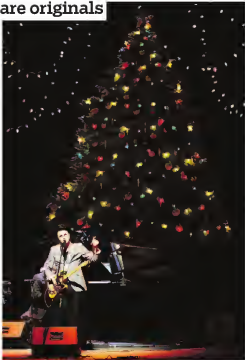
Two years ago I discovered two of my favourite Christmas traditions. The first was Sheryl McLean's Vinyl Cafe Christmas Tree. The second was the holiday album of her now-late grandfather. In 1985 (2001) Oh, the years I missed! Hawkeye Workman released *Almost a Full Moon*, an EP of original Christmas songs. Ten years later, he re-recorded the songs and released *Full Moon Eleven*. This album is pure genius. It's hard to choose just one favourite song, but "Three Generations always makes me tear up — it's about 'three generations on the kitchen all at once.'" Then there's "Almost a Full Moon (It's Make Some Snow, which is a side note — a love song that sings in making song).

### Patty Loveless — Bluegrass, White Snow (2002)

It's always full of covers, but with a bluegrass bent, these 30 standards feel new. Then there are three originals: the title track is my favourite, a lighthearted mule-donkey heavy tune about joyful Christmas in Kentucky where Loveless grew up. "All the hard times melted out to the snow filled the air." The harmonies by Dolly Parton just add to the appeal.

### She and him — A Very She and Him Christmas (2010)

Though it's a more too original, this compilation by the Zooey Deschanel and M. Ward has been one of my go-to songs. I bought it. It's her, Deschanel's voice is soft, so it doesn't overtake a room, and because they're all cover songs, you don't feel the need to pay much attention.



Hawkeye Workman performs during the Vinyl Cafe Christmas Tree in 2011. PHOTO COURTESY OF LARS BIAN PHOTOGRAPHY

# SPACES

Spaces celebrates beauty both indoors and out. If you have a living space we should highlight email [QC@leaderpost.com](mailto:QC@leaderpost.com)

## # CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY

# Display includes 50,000 lights, 400 extension cords

By Angelina Irtsova

**WHO?** John and Ekkehard Irtsova

**WHERE?** In Saskatoon's King George area, at 890 Windsor Ave.

**WHAT?** Their outdoor Christmas lights display, synchronized to music. With around 50,000 lights included, it's impossible to miss the corner house while driving in the neighbourhood. Aside from ordinary Christmas lights, many lawn decorations like angels, snowmen and drum sets fill the yard. A massive tree filled with lights and a giant herringbone star which sits atop the roof is also part of the display. If you turn to the radio in your car to 106.9 FM you can listen to the full 30 minute show and watch the lights. If you're willing to brave the cold, the music can be heard from outside of the house as well.

**WHEN?** The couple has always been big fans of Christmas lights and has been putting up a light display timed to music since 2006.

**WHY?** "We love Christmas so much and we just wanted to share it with everybody," Ekkehard says. "It's great for getting people into the spirit." John adds.

**HOW?** When it comes to the light show, John hooks up an FM transmitter and programs the light controls so it's timed to the music. There are at least 400 extension cords to help power all the lights. This year there are 75,000 more lights than last year and the couple expects there to be even more next season.

The couple spent about 60 hours putting everything together — the huge light tree itself takes a full day to set up.

**QC PHOTOS BY MICHELLE BIRD**



## #CROSSWORD

## NEW YORK TIMES Edited by Will Shortz

## ACROSS

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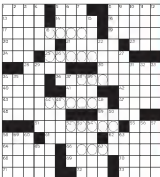


PHOTO BY STEVE GRANITZ

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CLASSIC  
SUDOKU

## Level: Beginner

Fill in the blank cells  
using numbers 1 to 9.  
Each number can ap-  
pear only once in each  
row, column and 3x3  
block. Use logic and  
process of elimination  
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the Sudoku can be  
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## EVENTS

## # MUSIC

Thursday, Dec. 26

**Dr. Hufnagel's Home for the Holidays**  
Featuring Koffler & The Corielly CMAs, The Dustin Riber Band and more  
Buschwiler, 2206 Dewdney

**Wildfire**  
The Pump, 641 Victoria Ave. E.

**Wonderie nd**  
McNally's, 2226 Dewdney Ave.

**Coldcut Night of the Year**  
O'Hair's, 1947 South St.

Friday, Dec. 27

**Homecoming Concert with Sam Hrivnivich and Friends**  
8 p.m., Le Dôme, Ecole Monseigneur de Lévesque School, 2650 Hillside St.

**Wildfire**  
The Pump, 641 Victoria Ave. E.

**Wonderie nd**  
McNally's, 2226 Dewdney Ave.

**Headzup**  
33 local musicians create seven new songs  
The Exchange, 2431 Eighth Ave.

**Seaside River**  
O'Hair's, 1947 South St.

**Mike Berglund**  
Edwards, 2350 Dewdney Ave.

Saturday, Dec. 28

**13th Ave Records Showcase**  
8 p.m. The Arctican, 2627 13th Ave.

**Wildfire**  
The Pump, 641 Victoria Ave. E.

**Mike Berglund**  
Edwards, 2350 Dewdney Ave.

**Wonderie nd**  
McNally's, 2226 Dewdney Ave.



Big Sugar with Mike Abbott (singer) will be performing at the Casino Regina Show Lounge on Dec. 28.

**Harvest King Records Christmas Party**  
Featuring Black Thunder, Invasion, Royal Red Brigade, Kestrel, the Jump Off, Rotted States, White Womers, Rats Out, and Birch Hills

**Rockapaloo**  
Monthly Old-Time Dance Party

**Concert Showcase**  
The Club at the Exchange, 2431 Eighth Ave.

**Concert Showcase**  
The Club at the Exchange, 2431 Eighth Ave.

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The Club at the Exchange, 2431 Eighth Ave.

**Concert Showcase**  
The Club at the Exchange, 2431 Eighth Ave.

**Concert Showcase**  
The Club at the Exchange, 2431 Eighth Ave.

**Identity NY featuring DJ**  
Marlborough

**Disruptor Cheese**  
The Sea, 306 Albert St.

**The Montgomerie**  
McNally's, 2226 Dewdney Ave.

**Big Sugar**  
Wide Mouth Mason

**Big Sugar**  
Wide Mouth Mason

**Big Sugar**  
Wide Mouth Mason

**Big Sugar**  
Wide Mouth Mason

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comes from a wide range of Saskatchewan artists.

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comes from a wide range of Saskatchewan artists.

**Clint Neufeld: The Chronicle**  
the Thane Ave, the Peacock, the Greyhound and My Grandmother's Chair Cabinet

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## # ART

**Our Town: Regina show and sale**  
A group exhibition and sale

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A group exhibition and sale

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A group exhibition and sale



## What you need to know to plan your week.

### Send events to [qc@leaderpost.com](mailto:qc@leaderpost.com)

#### Notable Donors Impersonating Me

Until Jan. 24, Art Gallery of Regina, Neil Salkow Civic Arts Centre, 2430 Uptowne St.

#### Behind Prison: The Mounted Police in Art

Until March 31, RCMP Heritage Centre, 5901 Dewdney Ave.

#### The Artists of South Saskatchewan Fine Arts

New exhibitions quarterly. Until July 21, 2012, Regina Creative Drawing, 1621 Albert St.

#### Animabooks Gallery

2366 Smith St. Open Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

#### Nouveau Space

2510 Albert St. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

#### Older Gift and Fine Arts

Oil and ink paintings by Chinese artists. Until Sept. 23, Open Monday/Tue. 2312 Smith St. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

## # COMEDY

#### Garry Dee: The Real Me. D Comedy Tour

Dec. 20, 7 p.m. Conexus Arts Centre, 300 Lakeshore Dr.

#### Comedy Central

Every Saturday night. Gabber's, 2338 Dewdney Ave.

## # THEATRE

#### Shocking Beauty

Until Dec. 29. Globe Theatre, 1801 Scotch St.

## # SPECIAL EVENTS

#### A Night at the Stable

Christmas Eve Service: Meet a few animals from Griffiths Petting Farm. Dec. 24, 5 p.m. St. James United Church, 4010 Stenwood Dr.

Into Thin Air: The Magic of Jeff



Comedian Garry Dee will be appearing at the Conexus Arts Centre on Dec. 20.

**Richards**  
Dec. 27, 10:30-11:55 a.m.  
RPL Central Children's Library, 201 10th Ave.

**RCMP Sergeant Major's Parade**  
Dec. 27, 12:45 p.m.  
RCMP Depot Division, 5600 11th Ave.

**Harry Potter Movie Marathon**  
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone  
Dec. 27, 1:30-4 p.m.  
RPL Albert Library, 1401 Robinson St.

**Into Thin Air: The Magic of Jeff Richards**  
Dec. 27, 2-2:45 p.m.  
RPL Connaught Library, 3435 13th Ave.

**Harry Potter Movie Marathon**  
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets  
Dec. 28, 1:30-4 p.m.  
RPL Albert Library, 1401 Robinson St.

**Singalong Sound of Music**  
Watch the classic filmed sing-along.  
Dec. 28, 6:30 p.m.  
Cascadia Regina Sing Lounge, 1880 Saskatchewan Dr.

Regina Petrus, Breadbox

**Regina Petrus vs. Prisoner Albert**  
Dec. 30, 7 p.m.  
Breadbox Centre, 1500 Place

**Neon Year's Eve**  
Party celebration featuring snow-spraying, stage shows, face painting, balloon animals, inflatable planetarium, experiments and more.  
Dec. 30, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Buy advanced tickets at 306-799-7100.  
Saskatchewan Science Centre, 2900 Powerhouse Dr.

**Harry Potter Movie Marathon**  
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix  
Dec. 30, 1:30-4 p.m.  
RPL Albert Library, 1401 Robinson St.

**Count Down to Fun!**  
Photo booth, mix tape party hats, noisemakers and more.  
Dec. 30, 3-3 p.m.  
Registration required.  
RPL Glen Kiln, 1601 Dewdney Ave. E.

**New Year's Eve 1912 Dance Party**  
Dec. 30, 3-4:30 p.m.  
Registration required.  
RPL Glen Kiln, 1601 Dewdney Ave. E.

**Contemporary Singles New Year's Eve Dance**  
Dec. 30, 8 p.m.  
St. Anthony's Parish Hall, 1825 Winmore St.

## # NEW MOVIES (DEC. 25)

#### AT Home

Asian in 19th-century Japan, Oshi leads a group of Samurai whose master has been killed by the treacherous villain, Lord Kira. Joined by a talented outcast named Kai (Joshua Kessel), they seek to avenge the death of their master.

#### Justin Bieber's Believe

Documentary.  
The continuing story of Justin Bieber, who goes both backstage and onstage to feature the gap singer during his rise to super stardom.

Grudge Match

#### Comedy

Two old boxing rivals (Robert De Niro, Sylvester Stallone) come out of retirement for one final match. The fight, set to take place 50 years after their last match, sees the two men facing off mentally and physically.

#### The Secret Life of Walter Mitty

Comedy.  
Walter Mitty (Ben Stiller) is an underdog who escapes his ordinary life by disappearing into a world of fantasies. He works in the photo department for UPS, and finds that the magazine is publishing one of his photos. When the negative for the first-ever goes missing, Walter takes action in the real world, embarking on a global journey.

#### The Wolf of Wall Street

Drama.  
Jordan Belfort (Leonardo DiCaprio), a hard-partying, drug-addicted New York stockbroker, refuses to cooperate in a massive securities fraud case that involves widespread corruption on Wall Street and in the corporate banking world, including inside his institution. Directed by Martin Scorsese.

#### American Hustle

Drama.  
Brilliant con man Irving Rosenfeld (Christian Bale) and his equally cunning Dutch partner Sydney Prosser (Amy Adams) are forced to work for a wild FBI agent, Nicole (Jennifer Lawrence), who pushes them into a world of Jersey power brokers and mafia.

#### Galaxy Cinema

430 McCarthy Blvd. W.  
306-122-7095

#### Glacier Online

Southland Mall Cinema  
3025 Gordon Rd., 306-985-3333

#### Regina Public Library Theatre

231 12th Ave., 306-777-6404

#### Reiner Inn

2503 Powerhouse Dr.  
306-522-6029

#### Rainbow Cinema

Golden Mile Shopping Centre  
3006 Albert St., 306-350-5350

# OUTSIDE THE LINES



Merry  
Christmas  
— FROM —  
BRIDGES  
&  
QC

## # Colouring contest

Each week, artist Stephanie Murray creates a timely illustration meant to please lots of all ages.

Children can colour the page, have a picture taken with the finished product and email it to [qc@leaserpost.com](mailto:qc@leaserpost.com) by Friday at 9 a.m. One winner will be chosen each week.

Please send high-resolution pictures and include the child's name and contact information.



Last week's QC coloring contest winner was **Addison Vining**. Congratulations! Thanks to all for your colourful submissions. Try again this week!

# WINE WORLD

#OSBORNE ORO DARK AND SWEET SHERRY

## Turn Christmas cake into extra-special treat

By James Romanow

Christmas Cake is one of the older cultural customs during this season. Essentially this is a bread cooked to the density of a potted pudding. A good cake will be loaded with dried fruits and nuts. A bad one is like eating pre-masticated coastguard.

I have had my number of excellent Christ mass cakes over the years. Recently this is a brand evolved to the density of a potted pudding. A good cake will be loaded with dried fruits and nuts. A bad one is like eating pre-masticated coastguard.

I have had my number of excellent Christ mass cakes over the years. Recently this is a brand evolved to the density of a potted pudding. A good cake will be loaded with dried fruits and nuts. A bad one is like eating pre-masticated coastguard.

First, buy a 600 ml bottle of Oro Sherry for every three people attending. This will not bankrupt you, as it only costs \$13. At that price you can afford to feed a Ukrainian clan, gathering around your fireplace a very stiff shot on a coffee mug. (No coffee!) You need a mug be-



cause they are all about to be taught the joys of drinking. With luck they have already mastered that with a much less pleasurable coffee and doughnut.

This stuff is an outstanding dessert wine. It smells and tastes of orange syrup, walnuts and dried fruit. There are few desserts this much fun.

Osborne Oro Dark and Sweet Sherry \$13

More great drinks in the Monday paper and on Twitter @joshbreen.

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NOBO	FLUE	EXALT
ONCONFIDERS	REPLY	
MULTI	TDSIR	SAB
PSI	SCORPAP	
HERI	ORIGIN	
MAGS	GRANDOPERA	
ALOT	EDU	PTAS
SALES	SEVENTH	ETWA
TINEAD	ALERT	
WIDEN	SEAL	
JAI	LEARN	PARIES
ALAND	MAISONFELS	
CAGE	STERN	TREE
KNOTS	OLE	AGES

6	5	4	7	1	9	8	3	2
9	1	8	4	2	3	6	5	7
2	3	7	8	5	6	9	1	4
1	7	6	9	3	5	4	2	8
5	4	2	6	7	8	3	9	1
3	8	9	1	4	2	5	7	6
4	6	3	2	9	1	7	8	5
7	2	5	3	8	4	1	6	9
8	9	1	5	6	7	2	4	3

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LEADER-POST

# INVENTORY

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## # BOXING DAY SHOPPING

# Five tips for smooth boxing day shopping

By Angelina Irtsova

### DESS WARM

Some stores may have lineups outside. Make sure you dress for the cold Saskatchewan weather in case you're out waiting outside for a few minutes — hopefully the deal inside is worth it.

### WEAR LAYERS

Many clothing stores don't open their fitting rooms on Boxing Day, and the areas that do will likely have lineups. Items purchased on Boxing Day are often final sale. Avoid buying weird sizes or waiting for a room by wearing a layer of tight-fitting clothing, so you can try

items on over top. (It'll also help with keeping warm.)

### WATCH YOUR SHOPPING BAGS

When you're browsing (or trying on clothing over top of your layings), it's easy to lose track of your belongings. A busy hall and kids on the ground make it easy for those who are "shopping" to take someone else's purchases or belongings.

### DON'T DRIVE

Driving — especially if you're headed downtown — will be a nightmare on Boxing Day. If you're planning a merry, it's a hassle to run out and put in more change. Take the bus or carpool. (Chris —

more bonus — you're helping the environment.) If you think you'll have time to take a large purchase, take a taxi. If you'll be bringing a lot of stores, go all out and hire a car service for the day.

### SECOND GUESSES THE SALES

Don't be fooled by flashy signs and red tags. Some stores' sales aren't actually that great. If you can look to see what the regular price of the item is — sometimes it's only a few dollars less. Would you buy the item at that price if it weren't for the sale tag? Some stores just place their already existing sale items together with no additional markdowns. Don't be afraid to ask how much you're actually saving.



Boxing Day shoppers looking for a deal rush into Best Buy this morning.



## Next week in QC

Francis and Mary Kargbo's shipment of hope to family in Sierra Leone is just in time for Christmas

# READ MY BOOK

**LOCAL AUTHORS:** Writers tell us what makes their book worth reading

# ERNEST BOEHNERT

## The Magic Christmas Train

Today my nephew Len is an artistic fellow who is over six feet tall.

When Len was still very young and using a high chair, he came to stay at our home because his father was hospitalized. Len stayed with us for some time and our family nurse or less adopted him. It was always a point of interest to know what Len was doing as he grew up and entered elementary school.

I decided to write The Magic Christmas Train so that I could include Len

in a story.

Children get caught up in the magic of Christmas, which involves Santa, gifts, decorations, family gatherings and special foods. However, in The Magic Christmas Train, at first Len wasn't out on some of the things associated with Christmas.

It's winter time and the weather is cold. His parents are away from home and he didn't even get a chance to tell Santa what he wanted for Christmas. This makes him very unhappy because Christmas Eve has arrived.

Before going to bed, Len looked out his window and saw the old steam engine train that was at the railway station. Len knew the train didn't work anymore but before he fell asleep Len wished it could take him to see Santa

Len suddenly found himself at the old railway station where the Grand Master Toy Maker waited for him to climb aboard the train. Len is only wearing his pyjamas and slippers but there must be magic around because he's not even cold. Even though there are no railway tracks, the old steam engine begins to move away from the station and travel into the countryside. The train cars are full of elves and they are giving toys together. The train stopped so suddenly and the completed toys were taken outside by the elves. More unassembled toy parts were landed on the train.

The Grand Master Toy Maker told Len that he had been sick and that was why not all of the toys were

ready for Christmas. When the train stopped again, Len went outside and he was very surprised to see Santa. Santa was taking the finished toys to deliver to boys and girls.

After the boys had all been put to bed, Len was even lucky enough to get a ride home in Santa's sleigh. On Christmas Day his parents were home and he was very surprised to see that Santa had brought him the special toy he wanted.

The Magic Christmas Train is printed by Trafford Publishing. The book is available in Regions of Ohio and Chicago. It's available by special order through most local bookstore bookstores and online at [www.trafford.com](http://www.trafford.com). Also available are Boehnert's previous books The Great



Alphabet Reminder Book and Christmas Train To Go

Ernest Boehnert is a retired teacher who lives in Rogers

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# SHARP EATS

# SHARP EATS

## How to make your own gingerbread house

By Michelle Berg  
and Jenn Sharp

We're all been there — the pre-made gingerbread house kit at the grocery store is calling out to you with promises of easy fun for the little people. You peek over or take it home and let the kids loose. The only problem with these kits? Your gingerbread house will look the same as everyone else's who bought the kit. If you could care less about originality, then all the power to you. If not, we've got a recipe for homemade gingerbread and the steps to making your own house (as other creators).

QC photographer Michelle Berg went all out this year, making a Noah's Ark for the annual competition held during the Festival of Trees at the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon. (Kids would go forward the first kindergarten M&S Clinical Research Chair Competition.)

Making your own gingerbread house could be a great way to spend time with the kids on cold days indoors during the school break. (no need on the Michelle's instructions and send us pictures of your final product.)

Author: @michellebergqc  
Twitter: @michellebergqc



The ingredients you'll need to make homemade gingerbread



Combine the butter and brown sugar



Mix in the eggs



Add the rest of the ingredients



I've been going to the Festival of Trees since I was young. I was always captivated by the creche displayed on Gingerbread Lane. Each year I told myself I would make one to enter. This year, I finally did.

I didn't feel like making a typical house so I got a little creative and went with Noah's Ark mainly because I thought that making animals out of fondant would be fun.

### Gingerbread INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup molasses
- 1 cup butter
- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup ginger
- 1 cup cinnamon
- 2 tsp cloves
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 cup baking soda
- 1 cup orange
- 4 eggs/flour

### METHOD

- 1 First start with the base parts. Measure out the sides of your house and roof on paper or cardboard then cut them out. With the ark, I made the sides, the floor, supporting beams, the top house and the roof (with holes for the giraffe loads).
- 2 In an electric mixer, cream butter and brown

- sugar until fluffy. Mix in eggs, molasses, baking soda, baking powder and vanilla.
- 3 Add flour. Mix on low speed until thoroughly combined. Divide dough into thirds and wrap in plastic. Chill for at least 1 hour.
- 4 Heat oven to 315°F. On a well-floured surface, roll out dough to 1/8 inch thick.

- 5 Cut into desired shapes. Press through shapes on parchment-lined baking sheets (You can make supports on the dough before baking to look like a log house or bridge). Bake 15 minutes, or until gingerbread is firm to the center, but not dark around the edges.
- 6 Leave gingerbread to cool and harden overnight, or for at least two hours.

# SHARP EATS



Roll gingerbread and refrigerate for two hours



Bake gingerbread shapes on parchment paper



Ingredients for the icing: the "juice" from one lemon



Michelle King's gingerbread house



Fondant giraffe and elephant

## ROYAL ICING

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 large egg whites
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 2 cups powdered sugar

### METHOD

1. Beat egg whites, lemon juice and powdered sugar until fluffy (7 to 10 minutes) with electric mixer on low speed. Use tinned sticks or transfer to an airtight container (royal icing hardens quickly when exposed to air) and refrigerate up to one week. Stir well with a flexible spatula before using.

### CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

1. Find a strong piece of cardboard or plywood for the base. I have used a cutting board to the past.
2. The gingerbread pieces may have rounded out during the baking process. You can shape them down with a knife to ensure all pieces fit together.
3. Use each gingerbread piece side together and hold them in place. Once secure, flush with the roof pieces. The royal icing acts as glue — once dry, it won't be going any where.

## TIME FOR FUN — DECORATING!

I chose to make animals out of fondant but you can also buy bulk candy and cover your house with teddy bears.

### FONDANT ANIMALS

This is when you can be creative and feel like you're back in kindergarten playing with Play-Doh.

1. I bought white fondant from Michaels and made different colors using food coloring gels.

2. Fondant dries out fast so you have to be quick. Be sure to keep the pieces you're not using in a sealed container.

3. Shape your fondant into whatever creatures you like and just let them harden.

I finished my set off with a little bit of shredded wheat to look like hay.

Now you can put your gingerbread set where you like, or eat it!

(Dixie): This gingerbread recipe is meant to be shared — you stay break a back.)



Fondant lion



Fondant giraffe



Fondant lion

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